



## **Untested Sexual Assault Kits: Addressing the Crisis**

### **Stakeholder Meetings**

The Kentucky Association of Sexual Assault and Programs and Kentucky's Auditor of Public Accounts, Adam Edelen, are conducting a series of stakeholder meetings across the Commonwealth this summer to talk about the untested sexual assault kit crisis. The 14 meetings are part of an examination by the Auditor's office to count the number of untested sexual assault forensic examination (SAFE) kits that are in the possession of local law enforcement. The Auditor also plans to make recommendations for reforming how evidence in cases of sexual violence is handled in the future.

The meetings will provide state officials with an opportunity to talk to survivors, victims' advocates, nurses, law enforcement, prosecutors and others who are involved in sexual assault investigations and gather testimony about the issues and challenges they face. The Auditor's office is focused on issues such as how kits are logged, tracked and stored, how decisions to test kits are made, whether victims are notified of the status of their kits and whether law enforcement have sufficient policies, procedures and training to handle kits and deal with victims.

Survivors, victims' advocates, law enforcement, prosecutors and others who are involved in sexual assault investigations are invited to attend the meetings to voice their concerns and experiences. Due to the sensitive nature of these issues, those who would prefer to share their concerns with the Auditor privately may request time in advance of the meetings to do so. Alternately, individuals may share their stories, concerns and opinions via email at [stephenie.hoelscher@ky.gov](mailto:stephenie.hoelscher@ky.gov). Confidentiality may be requested.

#### **Stakeholder Meetings**

##### **June 23**

2 p.m. CST

New Beginnings Sexual Assault Support Services, 1716 Scherm Rd., Owensboro

##### **June 26**

10 a.m. CST

Purchase Area Sexual Assault and Child Advocacy Center, 1605 North Friendship Road, Paducah

**June 30**

10 a.m. EST

Women's Crisis Center, 3580 Hargrave Drive, Hebron

**July 1**

11 a.m. EST

Silverleaf Sexual Trauma Recovery Services, 751 South Provident Way, Elizabethtown

**July 7**

10 a.m. EST

Cumberland River Behavioral Health, 1203 American Greeting Road, Corbin

**July 7**

2 p.m. EST

Adanta Sexual Assault Resource Center, 130 Southern School Road, Somerset

**July 8**

1 p.m. EST

Center for Women & Families, 927 S. 2nd Street, Louisville

**July 9**

10 a.m. CST

Economic Justice Institute, 2109 Old Louisville Road, Bowling Green

**July 9**

2 p.m. CST

Hopkinsville Municipal Center, 715 S. Virginia Street, Hopkinsville

**July 13**

10 a.m. EST

145 Constitution Street, Lexington

**July 14**

11 a.m. EST

Mountain Comprehensive Care Center's Healing Program for Survivors of Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence, 104 S. Front Street, Prestonsburg

**July 14**

2 p.m. EST

The Rising Center, 637 Morton Blvd., Hazard

**July 21**

10 am EST

Mason County Health Department, 120 West Third Street, Maysville

**July 21**

2 p.m. EST

Park Place, 1701 Central Avenue, Ashland

**Contact:**

Stephenie Hoelscher

Director of Policy & Communications

Auditor of Public Accounts

(502) 564-5841

[Stephenie.hoelscher@ky.gov](mailto:Stephenie.hoelscher@ky.gov)

Gretchen Hunt

Staff Attorney

Kentucky Association of Sexual Assault Programs

502-226-2704

[ghunt@kasap.org](mailto:ghunt@kasap.org)